

IN THE CLAIMS:

Would the Office kindly amend the claims as follows.

1.(currently amended) A cover for a cane ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of :

a piece of a flexible sheet material;

said piece of flexible sheet material having first and second longitudinally extending sides and first and second transversely extending sides such that said flexible sheet material has an overall rectangular configuration;

said first and second longitudinally extending sides being secured together for a substantial portion of their length to thereby define a tubular sheath, said tubular sheath having a constant diameter with first and second open ends, an unsecured portion being located at said first end to form a slit in said tubular sheath ;

~~said tubular sheath having an opening at either end thereof;~~ and

securement means located at ~~[[one]]~~ said first end of said sheath for securing said sheath in position on a cane.

2.(original) The cover of Claim 1 wherein said piece of flexible sheet material comprises a textile fabric.

3.(original) The cover of Claim 2 wherein said textile fabric comprises a printed textile fabric.

4.(original) The cover of Claim 1 wherein said securement means comprises a drawstring.

5.(original) The cover of Claim 4 further including means for retaining said drawstring in a desired position.

6.(currently amended) In combination, a cane having a longitudinally extending shaft and

a handle portion at an upper end thereof, and a cane cover, said cane cover comprising consisting essentially of a piece of flexible sheet material, said piece of flexible sheet material being a tubular sheath, said tubular sheath extending over said longitudinally extending portion of said cane, a slit in said tubular sheath, said slit being located at an upper end thereof and securement means located at an upper end of said sheath for securing said sheath to said cane. [[.]]